

Comics to convince

Anna and Ellen Richardson's sugar boycott drew attention to how domestic life in Britain was entwined with slavery and the slave trade.

Plan and draw your own comic about the Richardsons' sugar boycott. Decide what approach to take:

- a comic to tell a modern audience why the Richardsons' sugar boycott was important
- a comic for the Richardsons to distribute in the 1840s, to appeal to readers at the time.

Use the [storyboard template](#) and [draft comics in the resources pack](#) to help you.

Research other abolitionists from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries (biographies: <http://www.brycchancarey.com/abolition/index.htm>). Make a one-page comics biography of an abolitionist, either for audiences of their time or a modern day audience.

English

What if _____ visited Newcastle?

Choose a civil rights activist and invite them to speak in Newcastle. Who will you choose? Why?

Write a letter to them asking them to come and give a speech locally.

Write the speech you want them to give. Decide how many main points you can cover in a two-minute speech. Research videos of them giving speeches, to find out more about their style of speaking.

This video interview with Obama's speechwriter David Litt tells you more about the teams of speechwriters who work on politicians' speeches <https://youtu.be/tjKXONnxYpo>

Prepare questions to ask them after their speech.

PSHE. Anna and Ellen Richardson are boycotting sugar in the comic. Why?

Use this comic to start a discussion about the tactic of boycotting specific products to protest against actions by an individual, an organisation, a government, or an industry.

What other things have people boycotted and for what reasons? Do boycotts work? Research one example of a boycott and identify ways in which it was and wasn't successful.

Summary of comic: Book tour visit by Olaudah Equiano in the context of Quaker opposition to NE products forming part of the transatlantic slave trade. Equiano's story inspires local abolitionists, who show their guest the finest wonders of Tyneside. Book tour visit by Frederick Douglass, as guest of local Quaker abolitionists. The Richardsons of Summerhill raise funds for Douglass to use to buy his legal freedom, showing links with female-led agitation against the sugar trade

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Read online:

<http://research.ncl.ac.uk/fccomics/chapters/freedomfromslavery.html>

